Ombudsman clears GMA on NBN deal

By Leila B. Salaverria

THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN HAS dropped graft charges against President Macapagal-Arroyo and her husband in connection with the scuttled $329-million NBN-ZTE deal, but recommended the prosecution of former election chief Benjamin Abalos and ex-Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Romulo Neri.

In a 334-page decision, the office cleared Ms Arroyo of charges that she violated the antigraft law for refusing to [illegible]

OMBUDSMAN A4

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Friday, August 28, 2009 ★ Vol. 24 / No. 261

'Drivers academy' eyed after series of accidents

By Alcuin Papa

ITS CURRICULUM should probably include anger management, obstacle training, depth and distance perception, attention span tests, plus lots of exercises in visual [illegible]



DRIVERS A10

Scrapping of VFA urged

Santiago, Salonga lead move vs pact

By Christine O. Avendaño

DESPITE THE CLAIMS of executive officials that the Philippines had benefited from the RP-US Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA), and their denial that US troops were taking part in combat operations in Mindanao, Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago is convinced that the "very vague" pact should be scrapped.

Before the end of the hearing conducted yesterday by the Legislative Oversight Committee of the VFA (LoVFA), which she chairs for the Senate, Santiago told reporters that she would seek the consensus of her fellow senators on what to do with the 10-year-old agreement.

The US Embassy said last night American troops were not [illegible]

SCRAPPING A10



NO COMBAT role for US soldiers in Mindanao, says the US Embassy. American special forces patrol the perimeter of a building in Jolo, Sulu, to provide security for a USAID event as a group of young girls crosses the road.

(Inset) A member of a militant group holds a placard during Thursday's protest rally against the Visiting Forces Agreement outside the Senate building.

Erap says Mancao story a demolition job

By Michael Lim Ubac

ALL "HEARSAY" AND PART OF a "demolition" job amid survey results showing him he was among the frontrunners in the 2010 presidential race, ousted leader Joseph Estrada said yesterday.

This was his reaction to the testimony of former Senior Supt. Cezar Mancao on Wednesday that then President Estrada ordered the killing of publicist Salvador "Bubby" Dacer and his driver Emmanuel Corbito in 2000.

"These are very (plain and) simple hearsay and at the same time a demolition [job]," Estrada said.

The deposed President said "Mancao even admitted that he never talked to me... The truth of the matter (is) I didn't know him."

He claimed that the allegation was "another diversionary tactic to forget the $20,000 dinner (of President Macapagal-Arroyo at Le Cirque in New York last month)," he said at the Kapihan sa Senado.

Estrada even issued a side comment that the Inquirer had higher street sales yesterday because of the banner story, which focused on Mancao's court testimony that the then President [illegible]

ERAP SAYS MANCAO A10

Melissa ambivalent on amparo

By Nikko Dizon

"SHE'S HAPPY, BUT NOT HAPPY."

Filipino-American activist Melissa Roxas has "mixed emotions" about Wednesday's decision of the Court of Appeals (CA) granting her petition for a writ of amparo, her lawyer said yesterday.

Roxas, a member of the militant Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan)-chapter in the United States, has accused Philippine soldiers of abducting and torturing her at a military [illegible]

MELISSA A6

RP bucks recession; GDP up

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMY AS measured by the gross domestic product (GDP) expanded 1.45 percent year-on-year in the three months to June, buoyed by growth in mining, construction and government and private spending, officials said yesterday.

The GDP growth in the [illegible]

RP BUCKS A4

Among Ed to drop bid, back Noynoy for president

By Tonette Orejas, *Inquirer Central Luzon* and Michael Lim Ubac

PAMPANGA GOV. EDDIE Panlilio yesterday raised the possibility he would drop his presidential plan and instead rally behind Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III should he run for president.

"I'm thinking of not running. That's a big probability. I want to support Noynoy because with so many [candidates for president] from the reform movements, it would do our country more good if there is just one reform candidate. This would be Noynoy," Panlilio told the Inquirer.

The only son of slain opposition leader Sen. Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr. and the late former President Corazon Aquino can also unite the political opposition, according to Panlilio, a Catholic priest.

In supporting unification efforts, the governor said he was being consistent with his earlier position that rallying behind a single candidate could increase that person's chances of winning and put the reform agenda [illegible]

AMONG ED A10



THE READERSHIP Council's first meeting at the boardroom of the Inquirer's main office in Makati City is a lively gathering of the wise and the witty. But each is passionate about what's happening to the country and how his/her respective expertise can be of service to the Filipino. Photo was taken on Nov. 11, 2008.

People Power PDI Page 1

THE PAGE 1 STORIES IN THIS issue were selected by the Inquirer's Page 1 Readership Council, which was its culminating activity yesterday to cap its nine-month tenure.

What's the Readership Council?

The big idea was born on the lap of People Power (the FIRST and the ONE and ONLY Edsa 1). That's why it never talks to itself. It has to hear from people who made us what we are today (No. 1).

PEOPLE A10

Second FRONTPAGE

WEATHER FORECAST

There's no stopping me–Erap

POSSIBLE STANDARD-BEARER

GMA invites Noli to Lakas

By Cynthia D. Balana

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO has formally invited Vice President Noli de Castro to join the administration coalition for consideration as the Lakas-Kampi-CMD presidential standard-bearer in 2010.

De Castro disclosed this in an interview with reporters during the launching of the Philippine Urban Consortium in Mandaluyong yesterday.

But the Vice President said he had not given the President an answer yet as he was not sure yet about whether to run for President.

De Castro said the President had told him that the coalition wanted him to be its standard-bearer although he would still have to go through the nomination process during the party's national convention.

According to De Castro, were he to decide to run for President, he would definitely need the support of the administration party.

He said he considers it an honor for him to be considered for nomination as the coalition's standard-bearer.

The Vice President said he did not consider being anointed by Ms Arroyo in 2010 as a "kiss of death."

He said he has been working with the President for almost six years now and has witnessed how hard she works.

"If the President is hardworking, you cannot have members of the Cabinet who are lazy. Because our leader is hardworking, we [the members of the Cabinet] are learning a lot. My on-the-job training for the past six years was outstanding," he said.

De Castro stressed, however, that he was not waiting for the President's anointment to be convinced to run.

"I'm not asking for it, but if it is given, of course, I will be grateful," he said.

On placing only third in the latest Pulse Asia survey of presidential preferences, De Castro said he was pleased with the rankings considering that he has not yet declared that he would run for President.

"I consider that good because it means the people recognize the work that I have been doing as Vice President, as the Housing and Urban Development and Coordinating Council chair, and as presidential adviser on overseas Filipino workers. I'm happy with that," he said.

He said he was not worried at all that his standing in the surveys would continue to decline.

"These are just surveys. I would still consider them good," he said.

By Michael Lim Ubac

FORMER PRESIDENT JOSEPH ESTRADA SAID YESTERDAY NOTHING could stop him from taking a second stab at the presidency.

At the Kapihan sa Manila news forum, the deposed leader expressed confidence the Supreme Court would not disqualify him from running next year despite a constitutional ban on presidential reelection.

"I will not run if I believe I will be disqualified. I believe eventually it would be the people's decision that will prevail," he said.

Reminded that the Supreme Court was dominated by justices appointed by President Macapagal-Arroyo—his successor whom he has accused of involvement in his ouster—Estrada said the people should "decide" if he could run again.

"Of course, nobody can stop me, unless they say I'm disqualified," he said.

He said he was prepared for a legal battle, which is expected to start once he files a certificate of candidacy.

"When I've decided [to do something], I fight to the last [breath], especially if it concerns the welfare of the people," he said.

The president who was ousted in People Power II in 2001 has repeatedly said he has consulted legal luminaries like former Supreme Court justices and law school deans on whether he could run again for the post he held for just over two years.

Destiny calling

"I read one of the decisions of the Supreme Court penned by a chief justice that said the court may not bar the sovereign people may run.

"Having the presidency should be given to the people to decide. I believe in destiny, as the presidency is a destiny. As the saying goes, vox populi, vox Dei, the voice of the people is the voice of God," Estrada said.

He said that should the high court disqualify him, he had a Plan B.

But, "I cannot tell you all my plans. Baka isabotahe ng kalaban (They might fall into enemy hands)," he told reporters.

At 72, Estrada said he was not too old for the job, citing US President Ronald Reagan and South African President Nelson Mandela.

"How do I look? Anyway, President Reagan, my idol, ran at the age of 73 and was reelected at the age of 77. And he became one of the greatest presidents of the United States. Mandela was elected at the age of 80, one term, and he became a Nobel Peace Prize winner."

"Since I was imprisoned, I improved my good-looking English," he quipped.

Estrada was tried for plunder and perjury between 2001 and 2007, was convicted of the former charge, and was pardoned in October 2007 by President Arroyo.

One of the conditions of the pardon was that he would not seek public office again, but he has insisted he is not barred from running for another term.

Vindication is also on his mind, thus he has said that he would run only if the opposition fails to unite behind a single presidential candidate.

Impossible dream

But for all his talk of unifying the fragmented opposition, Estrada finally admitted yesterday the impossibility of getting President Arroyo's critics together for a meeting.

"We cannot call a convention because this is a multiparty system. We belong to different parties. How can you call a convention? This would all be an agreement among parties," he said.

Estrada defined the opposition as "anybody, any party versus the administration."

But he quickly added: "But we don't know who are the real opposition yet. But now I can see that it's already impossible for the opposition to present a single candidate for president because every day (the list is growing longer)."

Per Estrada's count, there were now 18 potential presidential candidates.

He said many aspirants were qualified to be president, with good track records and credentials, adding he "wouldn't want to be in their shoes."

Estrada said he will have a complete senatorial slate.

So far, he said, Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile, his son Sen. Jinggoy Estrada and Army Gen. Danilo Lim were "sure candidates."

He said Ilocos Norte Rep. Ferdinand Marcos Jr., Makati Rep. Teodoro Locsin, Grace Poe, Joey de Venecia III, Ted Failon and Edu Manzano were also being considered by his party, the Pwersa ng Masang Pilipino.



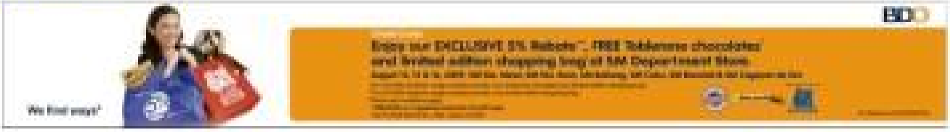
Less 'pork' for lawmakers in 2010 nat'l budget

State college ex-president guilty of graft









Pupils, colleagues appeal for kidnapped teachers

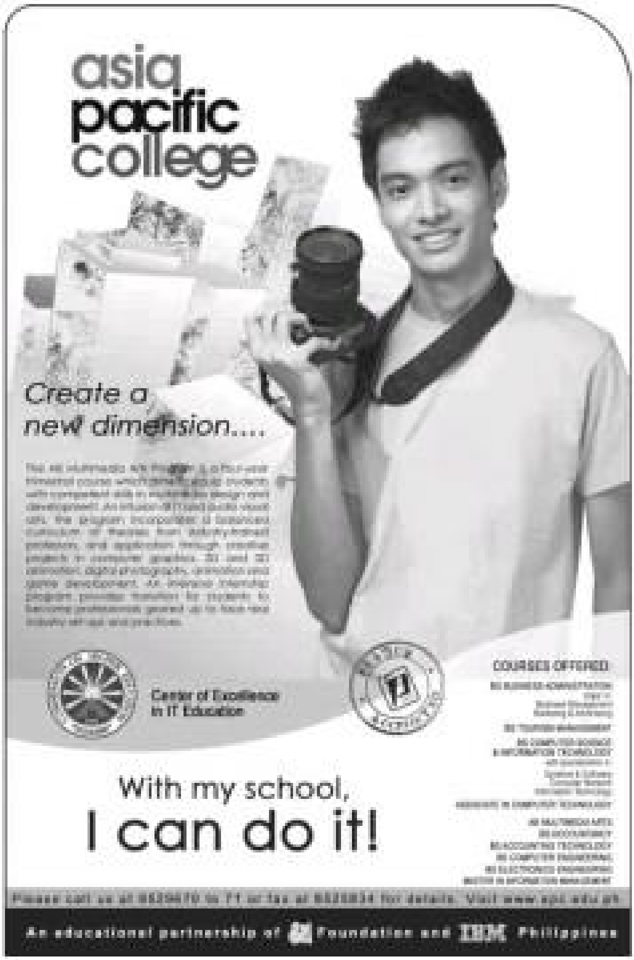


Resolute action urged

6 Magdalo rebels wanted no more

Correction

The Daily Gospel




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OFWs ask Owwa: Where's our money?

More GMA trips

Maid files abuse raps vs Tan brother

Bayani told to explain

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Ombudsman clears GMA on NBN-ZTE deal

Without scintilla of doubt

Golfing with ZTE

Gutierrez inhibited herself

'Fall guys'

RP bucks recession; GDP up

Within target

Services up

Decline in per capita GDP

Fear abating


Robinsons Supermarket
WOW!
Low, Low Prices!
August 28 - September 10, 2009
P18
P19
P175
P199
P39
P56
P85
P55
P155
P142
P127
P175
P104.95
P206.50
HOT BUY
Goya
P36.50
P109.75
P101
Chef Supreme
P48
P601
P657
Chef Supreme
P29.50
P152.95
Mama Sita's
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P15.75
Fundador
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Regent
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Pampers
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P40.75
Pril
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Pampers
P370
P74.75
Pril
P148.75
APPLE TAG SPECIALS
P19.25
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P23.50
P720
P92
P62
Get Discounts Daily on Healthy Choices

Bishop Bacani defends Estrada: That's not his character

'Not a bitter man'

'A man with a soft heart'

Erap says Mancao story a demolition job



Charges against Topacio

Close friends

Pardo defends Estrada

BW stock scam

Melissa has 'mixed emotions' on writ of amparo

No camp inspection

No longer respondents

Bayan statement



Among Ed to drop bid, back Noynoy for president





Open LP selection urged

Reformist agenda sought

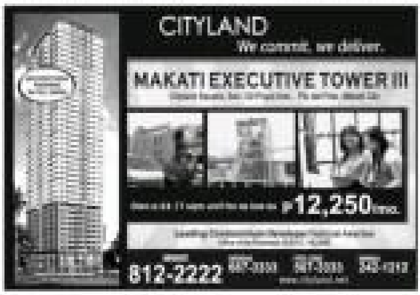
ANTI-DUMMY CASE

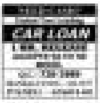
Lehman exec pleads not guilty; 2 others no-show







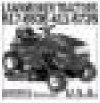






CL dance fund-raiser tomorrow









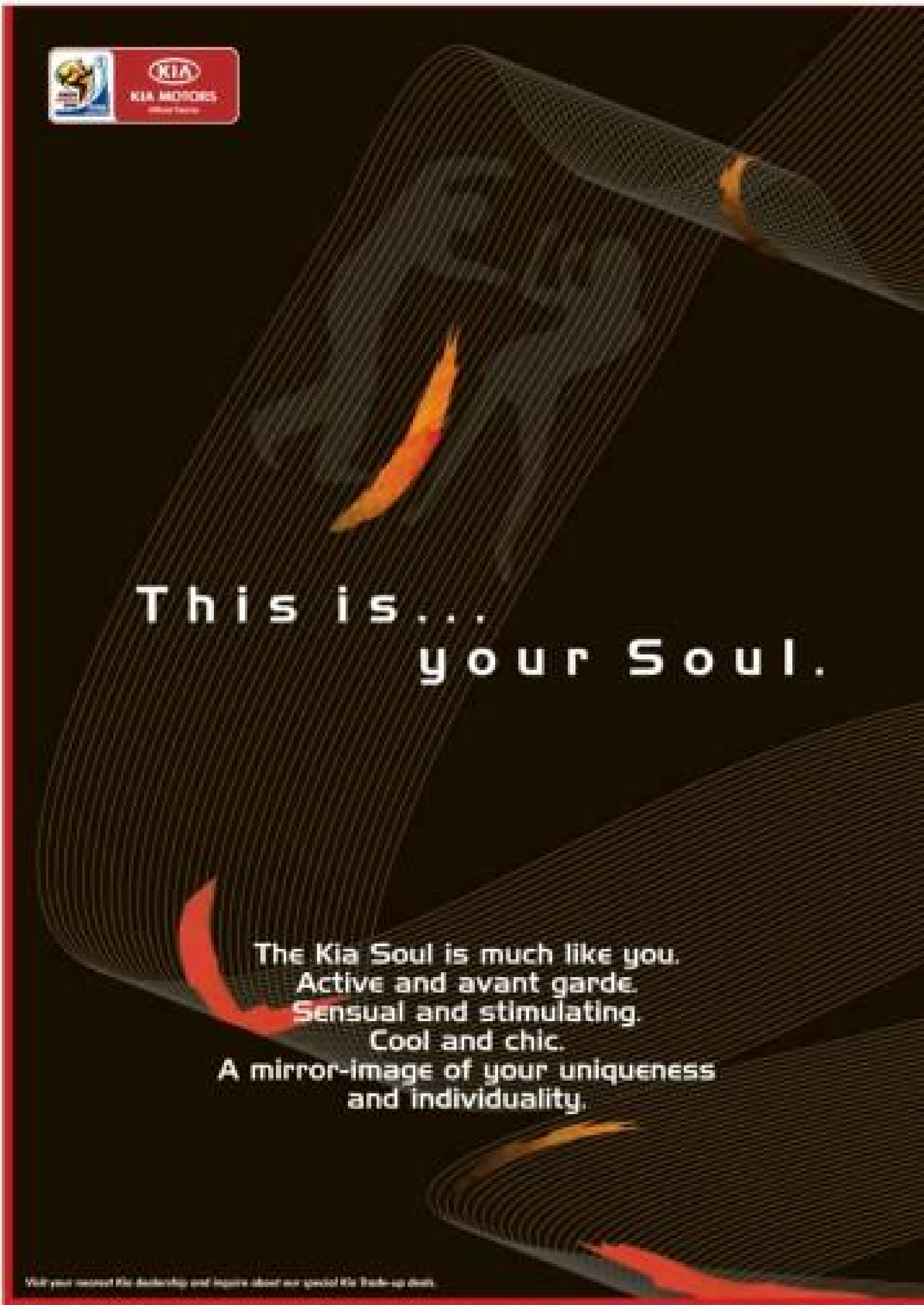






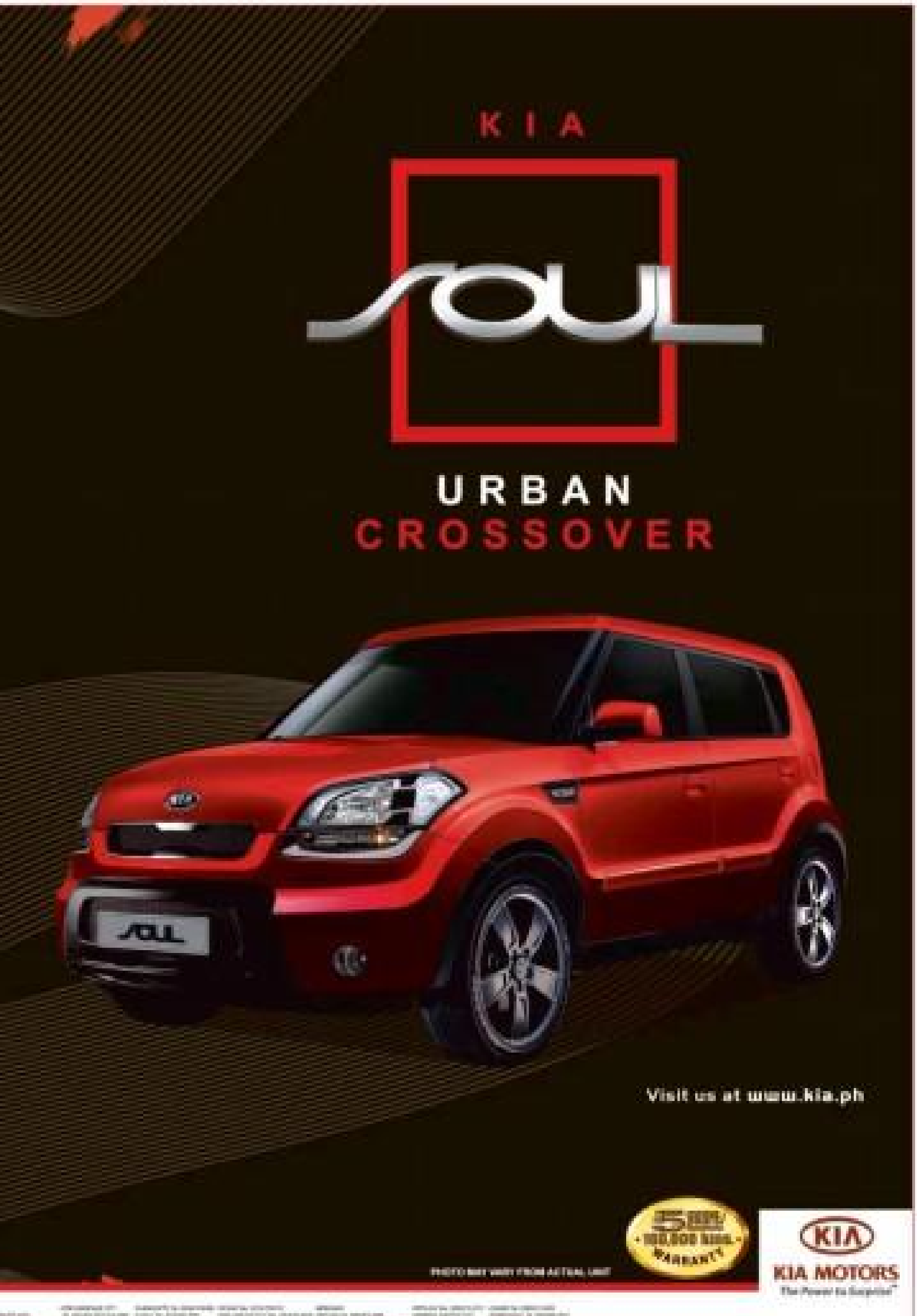
ANOTHER REVOLUTIONARY FIRST FROM KIA

CAC LAUNCHES THE FIRST URBAN CROSSOVER VEHICLE IN THE PHILIPPINE MARKET



[illegible]





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OPINION

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EDITORIAL



People's intent is correct meaning of Charter

AS I SEE IT



Neal H. Cruz

Continuing travails of disabled Filipinos

PASSION FOR REASON



Raul C. Pangalangan

A dark horse in the presidential race

ANALYSIS



Amando Doronila

'Patay na si Teddy'

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

Plaridel's dreams

LOOKING BACK



Ambeth R. Ocampo

Baaaa . . . loooot

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

THEY SAID

Lakas without FVR

RP's commitment to IHL in question

LETTERS

Bangon Pilipinas not JIL's political party

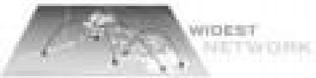
Public property in hands of religious organization

'Simply amazing' Inquirer



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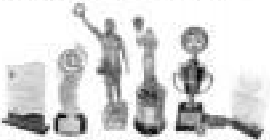
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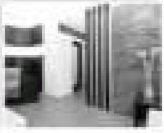
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People Power PDI Page 1

[illegible]

Listening to readers

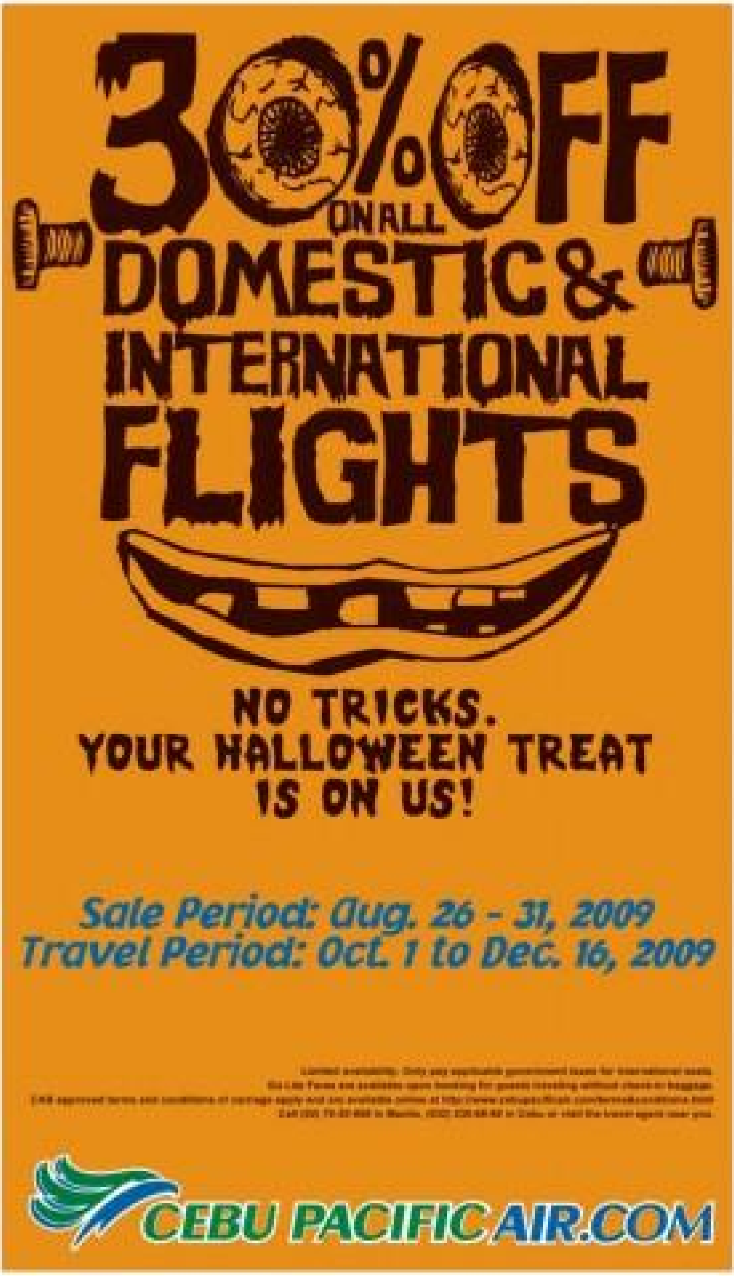
[illegible]

9 active members

[illegible]

Main objective

[illegible]



'Drivers ...

[illegible]

Holistic solution

[illegible]

Scrapping of VFA urged



US SPECIAL forces aboard an armored Humvee stand guard in Jolo, Sulu province.

Common sense

Supplemental motion

2 articles



SALONGA speaks during the hearing of the Legislative Oversight Committee of the Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA) at the Senate on Thursday.



RETIRED Navy Lt. Nancy Gadian attends hearing on the VFA at the Senate.

To the defense

Not in combat

Executive session

US Embassy: American soldiers 'not involved in combat operations'

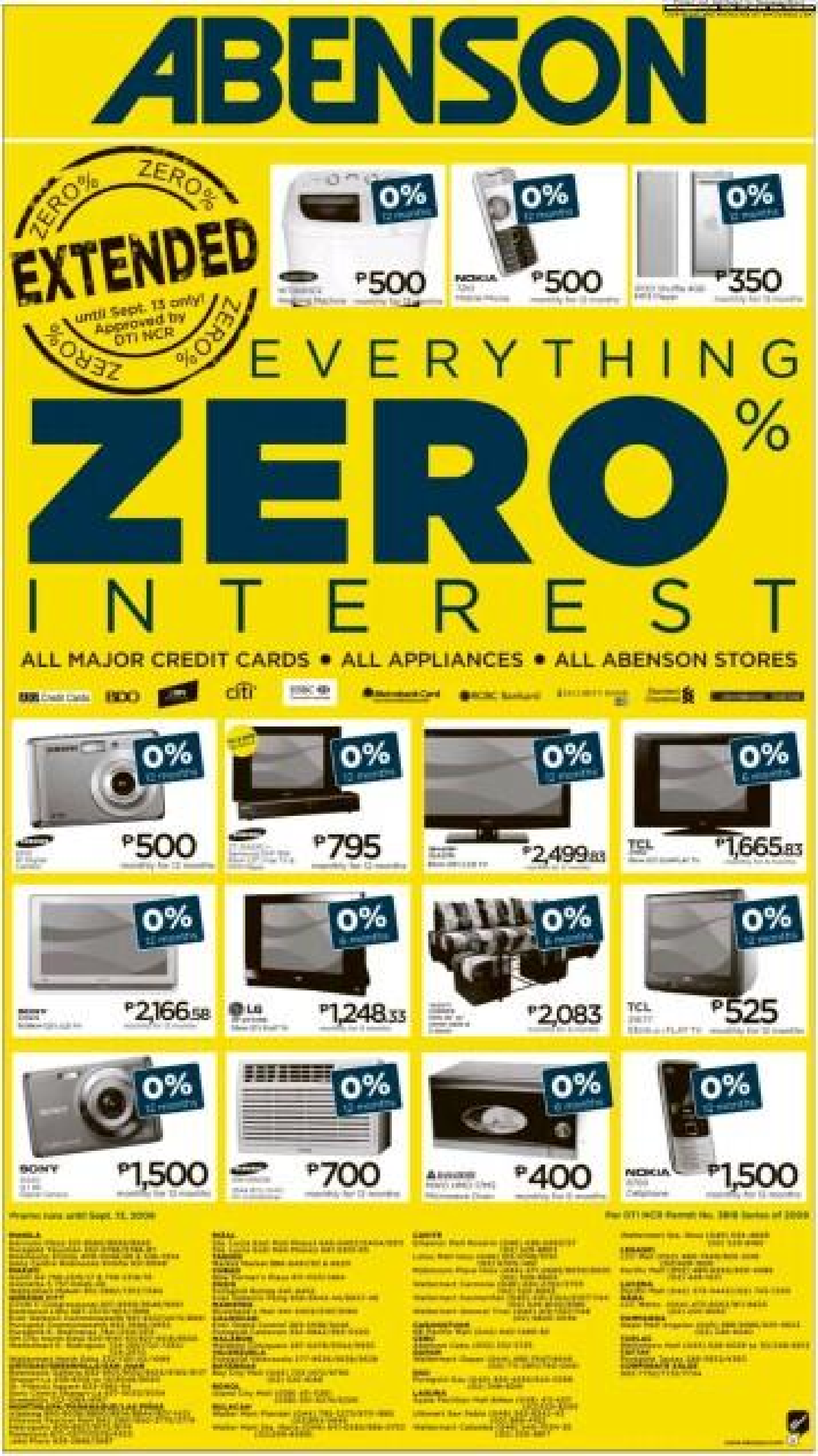
Cynthia D. Balana

IN THE KNOW

Salonga: VFA used to circumvent Constitution

'US personnel'

Notes


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P1,665.83
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SONY
P2,166.58
0%
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P1,248.33
0%
P2,083
0%
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SONY
P1,500
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P400
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P1,500

Selling of evacuee rations probed

COTABATO CITY—LOCAL OFFICIALS AND REPresentatives of the World Food Program (WFP) have started investigating Wednesday reports that evacuees were selling their food rations to merchants in Maguindanao and Sultan Kudarat.

Bargain

Rice for Ramadan

> 'Some needed to buy medicines, kerosene for their lamps and (needed) extra money for schoolchildren...'

Suspended talks



Bishop commits support for anti-child porn bill



22-minute GMA visit brings cash, action to bus crash victims

Weep

Help for education

Not so surprised

NEWSBRIEFS

BAGUIO CITY

4 dead in jeep crash

BATANGAS CITY

Mutilated body found

SAN PEDRO, Laguna

Pact to build houses

Tagaig five tops Cebu Landmaster; Buddies win

SPORTS

WORLD CUP QUALIFIER

Pucay, Que cling to 3-shot lead

US Am: Puyat makes Last 32 with 3&1 win



MARCEL PUYAT



POTENT PARTNERSHIP

Sizzling Southwoods opener in Luzvimin

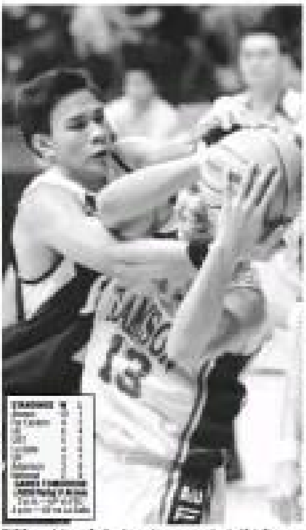
POC supports PSC on new talent pool

Binay nat'l age group tablenet tomorrow

Viloria wants Sosa rematch

Tams sweep into Final 4

Repulse Falcons; Eagles score



Letran, Arellano break tie for No. 4

Pacquiao 4-stag derby gets going


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SEX VIDEO CONTROVERSY

Halili's libel case vs Kho's mom dismissed

By Julie M. Aurelio

THE QUEZON CITY PROSECUTOR's has dismissed the libel complaint filed by actress Katrina Halili against the mother of Dr. Hayden Kho Jr. for lack of probable cause.

'Blood might spill with mosque's demolition'



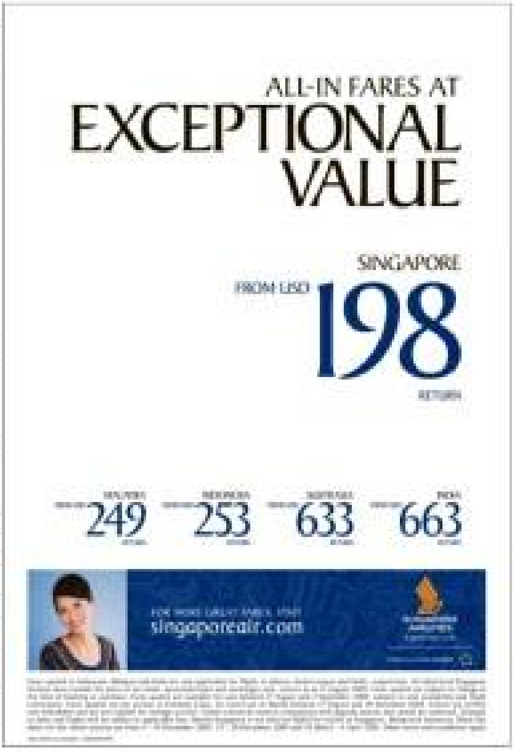


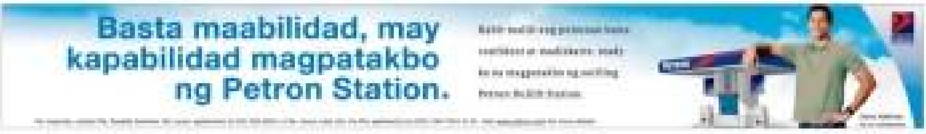
A TIME TO GRILL

DID YOU KNOW

Amalia Fuentes' son posts bail for libel case

By Julie M. Aurelio





Sta. Lucia Taps John Lloyd Cruz as New Endorser





Jobless mom of 4 held for shoplifting

METROBRIEFS

No water in parts of Caloocan, Malabon

'Haven for prostitution' shut down

Truck driver charged with man's death

2 men nabbed for selling drugs

The WORLD

WORLDBRIEFS

CIA pushed limits on sleep deprivation

AP

New blood tests find heart attacks quicker, better

Reuters

Afghans sacrifice bulls for bomb victims

AFP

Suicidal planet seems on death spiral into star

AP

Iran's factional disputes growing increasingly bitter

CAIRO—ON WEDNESDAY, AIDES TO IRAN'S president lashed out publicly at two former presidents, the nation's most influential dissident cleric said government officials had taken a "deviant path" and a government-aligned website reported that the Tehran prosecutor had been fired.

"They never used any

republic not an Islamic." NYT

Fear of more fighting in Burma forces thousands to flee

BANGKOK—MORE FIGHTING is expected in northeastern Burma

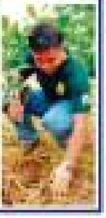
AFP

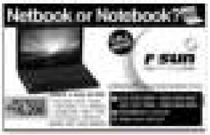

APPLIANCE
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SHOPPING CENTER






ADOPT A FOREST





BUSINESS

Editor Raul D. Marcelo • Assistant Editor Connie E. Mariano



SMC gets 35% stake in ₱15-B road project

IN THIS ISSUE

Deal on Laiban Dam seen soon

By Doris C. Dumlao and Riza T. Olchondra

SAN MIGUEL CORP HAS SEALED ITS DIVERSIFICATION into the toll road business with the purchase of an initial 35-percent stake in the private sector consortium undertaking the P15-billion Tarlac-Pangasinan-La Union Expressway build-operate-transfer (BOT) project.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, San Miguel announced that it had signed through subsidiary Rapid Thoroughfares Inc., a buy-in deal into Private Infrastructure Development Corp. (PIDC), a consortium of 10 construction companies.

"The agreement is the most recent step in SMC's strategic transformation to diversify from its core food, beverage and packaging portfolio and enable its entry into infrastructure and tollways," the disclosure said.

San Miguel president Ramon Ang added yesterday that the conglomerate would eventually raise its stake in PIDC to 51 percent, most likely by next year.

Aside from earnings from the operations of the tollway, San Miguel sees the completion of the expressway as crucial to speed up the distribution of its goods to Northern Luzon. Once completed, the toll road is expected to cut by half the present travel time from Manila to Baguio.

Among PIDC's stockholders are DM Consunji Inc. and the Lopez-owned First Balfour. The plan was for SMC to take in a new partner and buy the other consortium out.

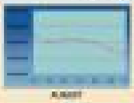
Metro Pacific Investment Corp. also has an option to take over the 30-percent stake held by the Lopezes as part of the package when it bought the latter's company that owns the North Luzon Expressway concession, although MPIC has yet to exercise this option.

SMC [illegible]

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

PESO-DOLLAR RATE



48.07

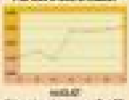
STOCK MARKET

Stocks end higher

SHARE PRICES CLOSED higher yesterday, mainly due to follow-through buying from the previous session, dealers said.

The composite index added 17.37 points to 2,881.46 while the all-shares index gained 10.34 points to 1,833.68.

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



Buy some and sell some

Market Rider



Halfway week 12

Bottom line spin

Philippine Stock Exchange

ISM buying stake in European IT firm

By Doris C. Dumlao

Double standard in money probes

[illegible]

Confidentiality

[illegible]

Treatment

[illegible]

Profiling

[illegible]

Corporate Securities Info

Raul J. Palabrica



[illegible]

Philippine International Trading Corporation

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF BRAND NEW CARTRIDGES 81MM HIGH EXPLOSIVE FOR THE PHILIPPINE ARMY

Philippine International Trading Corporation

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF BRAND NEW GRENADE, HAND SMOKE (ASSTD. COLOR) FOR THE GENERAL HEADQUARTERS – ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LA UNION
Office of the Provincial Treasurer

NOTICE OF RESALE

DACO INDUSTRIES CORPORATION

FOR SALE

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES SYSTEM

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

STAY ORDER

Notice of Dissolution

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

More Classifieds
PITC a A21
PITC b B2

EDITH NAKPIL RABAT

wife of the late **Governor Francisco Garcia Rabat**;
daughter of the late **Juan F. Nakpil**, National Artist for Architecture and **Anita Noble**, first Miss Philippines;
granddaughter of the late **Julio Nakpil**, Revolutionary Musician and Patriot and **Gregoria de Jesus**, Lakambini of the Katipunan.



Miss Philippines 1955
Assembly Woman, Davao Oriental, 1984
Deputy Minister for Tourism, 1984
Gintong Ina Awardee, 1997

who died in the Grace of our Lord on August 26, 2009.

Her CHILDREN, and GRANDCHILDREN,

Louis Philippe, Ma. Carla, Miguel and Marco
Francisco Jose, Leslie, Nikki and David, Patrick †
Michael Patrick, Misha and Mikey; Rina, Nicole and Madison
Mayor Michelle Marie Denise
Board Member Anthony John Eric, Paolo, and Paco

Viewing is at Santuario de San Jose, Greenhills East, from August 27-30, 2009.
Funeral Mass will be at 2PM on August 30, 2009. Her ashes will be brought to Mati, Davao Oriental, her final resting place.

Message of Thanks

LETICIA RAVINA ARANILLA

Ate/Tita Lety

In Loving Memory

ROQUE "Tete" VANO ESCANO

AMPARO 'AMPY' RUGAYAN QUINAN

ROMUALDO REYNOSO SANTIAGO

"...absent with the body to be present with the Lord."

"There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heaven."

Ecclesiastes 3:1

CLASSIFIEDS

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
LGU Mataasnakahoy, Batangas

Influx of Taiwan tourists seen

[illegible]

Building materials prices dropped in July, NSO says

[illegible]

SMC gets 35% . . .

[illegible]

ISM buying stake . . .

[illegible]

Stocks end higher

[illegible]

Business getting optimistic, poll shows

Outlook for second and third quarters positive

Foreign broker shuts down RP operations

BSP, PDIC eye ₱5-B fund for consolidation of rural banks

PAL cuts costs to survive crisis

BUSINESS Friday
Business Features Editor: Margie Quimpo-Espino

Robust franchising sector bucks crisis trend

Affi says most concepts, especially food, still growing



CONCEPTS on carts are popular among OFWs, retirees and young entrepreneurs.

Good returns, minimal investment

Love it, understand it

Potential franchisees

Are loyal customers really profitable?

MARKETING Rx
Dr. Ned Roberto & Andy Roberto

Watch out for those great pyramids

Get-rich-quick schemes still victimize investors



AMWAY'S Scott Balfour

GOINGS-ON

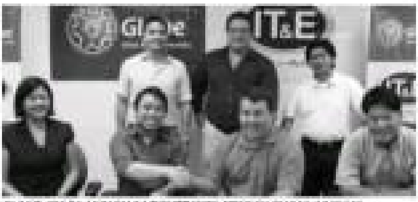
Search for top entrepreneurs on

Skelan campaign wins Unilab Awards

Lowe Manila wins at New York Festivals

People, Events & Products

The rise of modern youth entrepreneurs



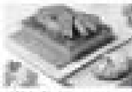
GLOBE, IT&E LAUNCH PARTNERSHIP, ITX 7 IN GUAM, SAIPAN

Know the pitfalls, traps in Letters of Credit

The jump in Avant-Garde tech



WAGYU ADVENTURE IN DINING



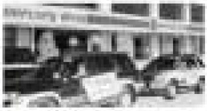
Apo Floors joins ManilaCon 2009 Expo

Living with diabetes made easy with website



ALL SET FOR KESONG-PUTI FESTA, OCT. 26

Shopping for DC Shoes made easier



TREVISCA LAUNCHED AT MERCURY DRUGSTORE

BUSINESS

Meralco says electricity sales picking up

Decline in industry demand eased to 5.9% in July

Yellow ribbons and red armbands

COMMENTARY

Senate action

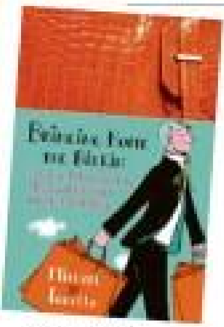
Key insight

LIFESTYLE Fashion&Beauty
Editor Thelma Sioson San Juan
Contributing Editors Apples Aberin-Sadhwani, Jenni Epperson and Ria Francisco-Prieto





Nothing is too extreme when you're chasing after the 'it' bag



LONG HOLIDAY WEEKEND READING

Bagging the Birkin—and the bestseller

By Pam Pastor

BORED WITH HIS LIFE AS A makeup artist based in the US, Michael Tonello took a leap of faith and moved to Barcelona, Spain, where he was to start a new life. But when a friend's promise of a job fell through and the bills started rolling in, Tonello didn't know what to do.

He put up a few things he had lying around the apartment on eBay—a Ralph Lauren scarf, a few first-edition books—not knowing that the online auction site wasn't just going to help him pay his bills, it was about to change his life.

It started with the Hermès scarf he almost forgot he owned. He put it up on eBay and hit pay dirt when he discovered Hermès scarf collectors who bid online aggressively for scarves. With the help of an avid scarf collector, Tonello learned everything he could about Hermès scarves and made a business out of buying and selling them on eBay.

Legendary bag

Soon, it wasn't just scarves. When one client requested that he find her a Birkin, the legendary "it" bag found on the arms of the rich and the famous, Tonello made it his mission to discover how to get his hands on one.

No, he wasn't willing to be put on the wait list; he was determined to find the secret formula to buying Birkins faster than you could say Hermès.

His book, "Bringing Home the Birkin," chronicles Tonello's adventure in his quest to unlock the secrets of the world's most coveted bag. Rightfully described as "The Devil Wears Prada" meets "Catch Me If You Can," the book is packed with fashion thrills and dangerous thrills.

Rife with style and action, "Bringing Home the Birkin" is an enjoyable read not just for fashion fans. Tonello's pursuit of the Birkin takes him all over the world—and he takes you along with him. Although he has the tendency to ramble about the places he visits, the food he eats and his blooming relationship with Juan, his Hermès and shopping adventures will keep your eyes riveted to the page.

You will find yourself cheering for Tonello as he manages to bring home the Birkin again and again and again, to the delight of his loyal clients. A well-traveled auction, an international hostage situation, thousands and thousands and thousands of dollars—this book makes it

BAGGING C2





ANTHONY Huang, executive vice president, Rustan's Commercial Corp. and SSI; Christopher Rourke, HSBC senior vice president and head of marketing; Rhoda Campos-[illegible] of Rustan's; and Ben Logan, HSBC senior vice president and head of Personal Financial Services, during the cosmetics event at Rustan's Makati

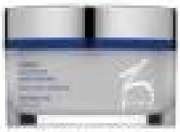
Rustan's and HSBC are holding a cosmetics and wellness festival till October



CLARINS boutique at Rustan's Makati

Crisis or none, beauty business thrives

By Doris V. [illegible]



OBAGI ZO Microderm Hand Renewal Anti-Aging Formula



DIOR Poudre Libre Eclat Haute Definition

A WOMAN MAY FORGO THE purchase of that fine piece of furniture for now, but she will not scrimp on her trusted eye cream, however trying the times.

This seems to be the idea between Rustan's and HSBC when they partnered to launch Rustan's as the so-called "Beauty Source." The partnership is a cosmetics and wellness festival that runs through October, offering freebies, discounts, spa treatments and gifts to HSBC Red MasterCard holders.

"Times are hard but women will do what they always do to stay beautiful," said Ben Logan, HSBC's SVP and head of Personal Financial Services. The bank's Red MasterCard is designed for women's lifestyle.

Logan noted that while credit spending



NARS [illegible] lipstick

for food and restaurants has been steady, there's a growth of 5 percent for cosmetics. "It's not 20 percent, but that's still growth. Maybe she won't buy that table now but for something to make her beautiful..."

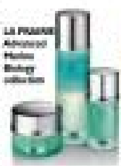
From September, a minimum purchase on Rustan's cosmetics will reward a Red cardholder with a "beauty box" containing select products from premium brands like Murad, Mario Badescu, Univers Phyto, Acca Kappa, plus gift cards from proven partners like Thai Airways, [illegible], Belo Medical Group, Univers Phyto Salon and Rustan's Jewelries.

Rustan's is the exclusive distributor of top beauty and lifestyle brands like Clarins, Chanel, Dermalogica, Diptyque, Annick Goutal, Laura Mercier, La Mer, among many others.

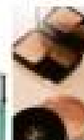
Minimum purchase of these brands, in



BEN Logan, [illegible], marketing communications manager, Rustan's Commercial Corp., and Anthony Huang



LA PRAIRIE Advanced Marine Biology collection



CHANEL bronze powder and blush

Chinese-Filipino



DIANNE Wong, Harris Co, Kim de Leon, Cromwell Chan

Bagging the Birkin —and the bestseller

evident that nothing is too extreme when you're chasing after the "it" bag.

Memorable

The book is peppered with little drawings that spice up your reading experience, including the anatomy of a Birkin, the Hermès store employee roster and more. There are also photos [illegible]

Call it what you [illegible]

If you love Birkin[illegible]

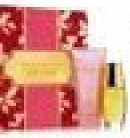
It's a [illegible]



[illegible] shop at Rustan's Makati



[illegible] La Vie est Belle [illegible]



[illegible] Lauder Beautiful body [illegible] and perfume set

...cluding La Prairie, Dior and Thierry Mugler fragrances, for instance, comes with either gifts or personal, one-on-one consultations with the brands' experts.

Annie T. Huang, Rustan's SVP, also announced Rustan's is holding a series of free daily workshops throughout the promo period in Rustan's Makati (G/F Heaven on the Fifth) and Shangri-La (G/F in front of MAC).

At the launch last week, Laura Mercier held a well-attended workshop on "How to Achieve a Flawless Face" in Makati, where customers, guided by professional makeup artists, got to try applying makeup, the Laura Mercier signature "Flawless Face" way.

On Aug. 31, MAC will conduct the "Basic Makeup Techniques" workshop (Makati) while Paul & Joe hosts [illegible], Aug. 29, "The 5-Minute Face: Your Everyday Look Simplified" (Shangri-La) and on Sept. 1, "Shine and Gorgeous Evening Look Defined" (Makati).

Other notable workshops are: "Look Younger Without Surgery" by Skin Doctor, "All About Men's Skincare," "High Impact Eyes" by Bobbi Brown, "Perfect Solution for the Perfect Silky Hair" by Phyto, "Choosing Your Fragrance" by Estee Lauder, "Immaculate Complexion" by SK-II.

There will also be special seminars in October during Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

For schedules and inquiries, call Rustan's at [illegible] (Makati), [illegible] (Shangri-La), [illegible] (Alabang), [illegible] (Glorietta), [illegible] (Gateway) and [illegible] (Cebu).



YELLOW Tee Party shirt and [illegible] skirt

BLACK-AND-WHITE Tee Party shirt

SILK black jacket, Tee Party shirt and gray tights

JUMPSUIT and printed Tee Party shirt accessorized by colorful bandana

Fun tees for all occasions



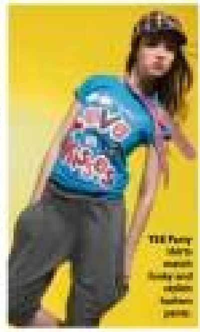
TEE Party [illegible] Girls Teens Wear of SM

ASIDE FROM THAT ICONIC PAIR OF BLUE jeans, no other piece of clothing encodes as much attitude as the T-shirt. Starting out as a staple of the youth culture, tees now deeply permeate different levels of culture and society.

Maybe it's the ease and fun in wearing a tee, and again, maybe it's the way tees have flourished as a means of personal expression—from advertising major consumer products in the 1970s to designer names logos in the 1980s and 1990s. Today, slogan tees are designed with socially relevant messages on one hand, and humorous and ironic messages—a trend embraced by celebrities like Britney Spears and Paris Hilton—on the other.

SM's Tee Party is a young and fun take on tees in bright colors, graphic prints and youthful expressions. These are tees for all occasions one can wear to school, a party or get-together with friends. The best part is the price—only P[illegible].

Rock on in style with Tee Party tops available at the Girls Teens Wear Department of all SM stores.



TEE Party shirts match funky and stylish fashion pants

fashion event



AMELIA Ting, Josie Tan and Beth King

AN OFFSHOOT OF LAST YEAR'S successful "East Heads North" fashion event at the TriNoma Mall was the recent Asian Dragon fashion event held at the Greenbelt 5 Fashion Walk.

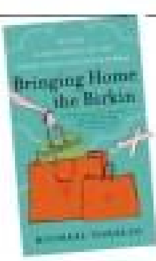
The event showcased apparel from the biggest names in fashion housed in Greenbelt 5.

Taking the VIP seats at this show were grandparents, eager spouses and excited children, among them Chinese-Filipino business leaders Albert Yan, Bobby Sandico and Tony Chen, as well as socialites Annie Tan, Amelia Ting, Beth King and Bonnie Tan.

The models, recruited from the Chinese-Filipino community, included grandfather Benito Pettalcorin, stylish grandma Janet Kopo, 5-year-old Dara Lu and 12-year-old Gabrielle Changpeyen, who brought the house down with her presence.

After the show, guests enjoyed cocktails sponsored by [illegible], while enjoying the display of accessories presented on the other end of Fashion Walk.





r

From page C1

...sense—click it, a microwave, Hermès expanse—but this impossible road.

...if you have Birkin, if you don't have a Birkin, if you go crazy over Birkins, if ...'s Birkin—this book is for ...

...sure as a Hermès crocodile

LIFESTYLE

Booming south, thriving shopping



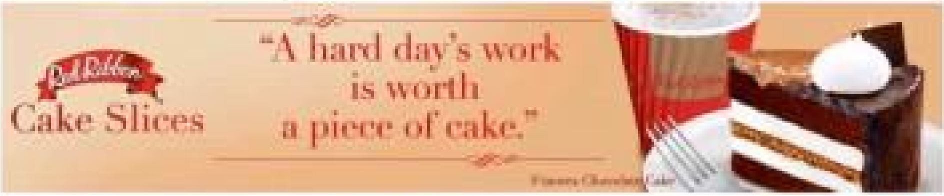
THE AUTHOR with Juvenal Sanso at the art walk

From sneakers to 'lechon,' this is the lifestyle destination south of Manila

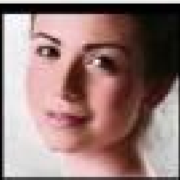




LIFESTYLE *Fashion&Beauty*





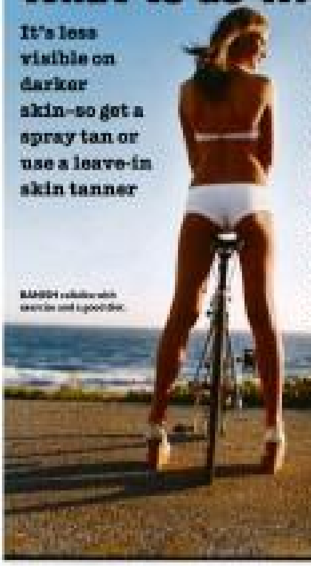






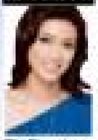
What to do with cellulite

It's less visible on darker skin—so get a spray tan or use a leave-in skin tanner



BANISH cellulite with exercise and a good diet.

KNOCKOUT!



Ria Francisco-Prieto

What is cellulite made of?

Why do we get them?

What treatments can be done to remove cellulite?

How do we prevent cellulite?

What is the easiest way to hide them?



CLARINS High Definition Body Lift

Junk on their star trunks!



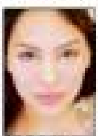
What beauty products newlyweds share



KIEHL'S daily cleanser



HANS and Marilen Montenegro







TEXTURE Expert Lumicontrole

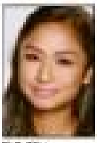


TEA TREE shampoo

VITAMIN C toner

Tips

How to treat common skin problems



Kelly Misa

Moisturize skin



New 'do as instant pick-me-upper

MAKEOVER 911



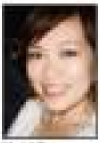




Tea-tree products

Rejuvenating spa products





Mariel Chua

At-home ahh

Comfortable facial





Finally, a moisturizer for tropical conditions



Clarins' HydraQuench 'calms the skin and reduces the shock it gets from the hot outdoors'

By Chucha Y. Mead



CLARINS lip balm

'Katafray' extract

Berry-scented lip gloss

Vanity Basket

Oil control makeup



CAROLINE oil control

Avon scent



ELIANTO lip gloss

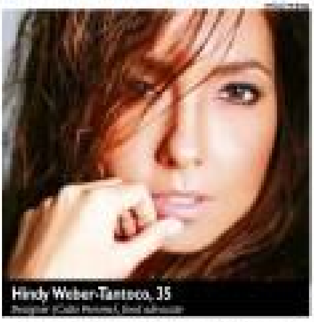


AVON Jet Femme

LIFESTYLE

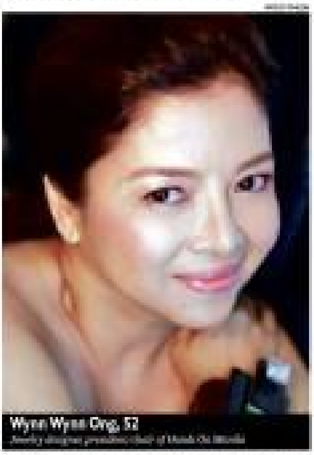
INQUIRER collaborates with Nokia, Look magazine in 'The Look of Style'

It follows the era's zeitgeist: Style must be substance—a must for survival (even Vreeland made a living out of it)



Hindy Weber-Tantoco, 35

I don't really have a formula for what to wear. I like to dress appropriately—a little bit unexpected, but still within propriety. I don't go on a diet for weight loss, but I go on a diet for health. I haven't eaten meat in 16 years. I have been advocating the "Go Green" lifestyle since grade school... Beauty is something that makes my heart flutter, whether it's a feeling, an image or a person.



Wynn Wynn Ong, 52

I buy clothes with beautiful little details that are barely seen; clothes that are as well-made inside as they are outside. I prefer structured clothes with architectural elements, and enjoy wearing clothes that possess wit. I usually pair my clothes with a statement piece of jewelry. For a casual lunch or for a gala event, it will still be a jewelry piece that is quite unexpected.

STYLE IS SUBSTANCE—no ifs and buts about it. Like it or not, that's how it goes in the 21st century.

This season's man or woman must go beyond skin-deep, not only in dressing or fashion or grooming, but in all facets of living. He/she must not only look the part; he/she must also know and live the part. One can't fake it.

And—the hard times call for substance. It's no more option; it's a must for survival.

As author Annette Tapert wrote in the bestseller "The Power of Style" about 20th-century style divas, Vogue's Diana Vreeland: "In the final analysis, this apparent rule was really one of the first women of the 20th century who had more style than money and used that style to carry a living."

From then, style was a necessity.

With this zeitgeist, Inquirer Lifestyle and Nokia continue the Lifestyle Series, with Look Magazine, with a unique event called "The Look of Style."

Set on Sept. 7 at Ayala Museum, it brings to the fore the lifestyles of 26 interesting men and women in a special program highlighted by a photo exhibit. The exhibit is a creative collaboration among the trendsetting photographers and hair and makeup stylists of the industry.

Also marking the first anniversary of Inquirer's Look Magazine—a bimonthly magazine whose core content are fashion, beauty and lifestyle—the event will be graced by the 26 men and women chosen by the Inquirer Lifestyle and Look editors.



They have varied backgrounds, expertise, tastes and lifestyles—from fashion, style, business, media and show biz, among others.

They are [illegible]

What do these people have in common, apart from good style and smart lifestyle? They have staying power; they're no flash in the pan.

Stylishly and creatively, they're captured by the country's top photographers Jun de Leon, Mark Nicdao, Sara Black, Paolo Pineda and Jo Ann Bitagcol, with the help of stylist Rex Cruz of Look Magazine, Maybelline makeup artists and L'Oréal Professionnel hairstylists.

"The Look of Style," directed by Bobby Garcia, follows the Leonardo Lifestyle Show held last June, also a collaboration with Nokia.

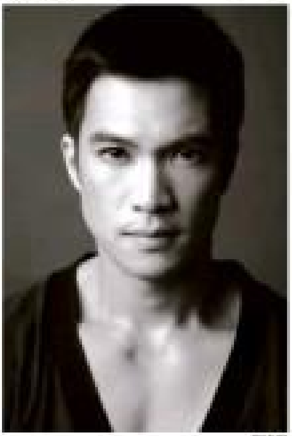


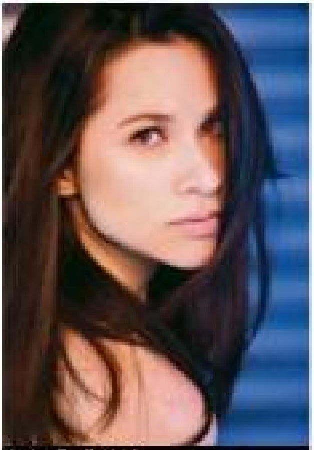
Amina Aranaz-Alunan, 30

[illegible]

Dieter Ocampo, 33

[illegible]

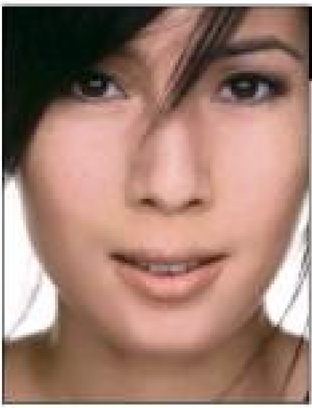




Audrey Tan-Zubiri, 26

[illegible]

INQUIRER collaborates . . .



Kaz Florencia, 32

[illegible]



Leica Carpo, 40

[illegible]



Rosanna Ocampo, 28

Fashion designer

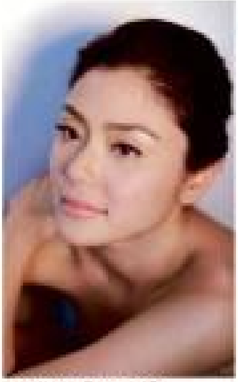
[illegible]



Tessa Prieto-Valdes, turning 46

[illegible]

INQUIRER collaborates with Nokia, Look magazine in 'The Look of Style'



Dina Arroyo-Tantoco, 27



Katrina Tantoco-Lobregat, 35



Richie Ortega-Torres, 39

MORE NEXT FRIDAY

New skin care center in Pasig



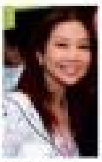








American Ambassador Kristie Kenney is no prima donna







Without Batting an Eyelash

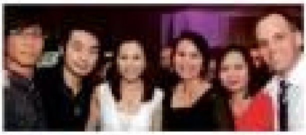


Maurice Arcache

Photos by Alex Van Hagen









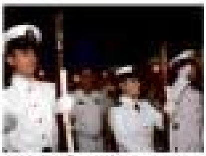




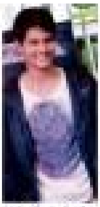




Autumn-Winter collection





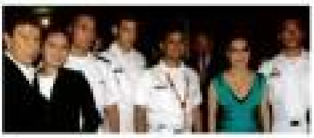






Colombian hospitality







Dita Sandico-Ong comes up with cotton jersey separates with woven accent shawls, boleros and neckpieces to celebrate heap and heft

SOFT PANTSUIT Cotton jersey separates and ruffled scarf as accent

Plus-size couture

By Larry Leviste
Contributor

IN THE REAL WORLD, SIZE REALLY doesn't matter. Or it shouldn't, because 79 percent of women on our planet aren't blessed with a size-zero body like models in Vogue magazine.

This is why most double-digit-sized women find it frustrating and infuriating that ready-to-wear doesn't address their desires. Usually shapeless kaftans or dresses in big floral prints are the store staples for the full figured.

For today's Inquirer Exclusive special, designer and environment advocate Dita Sandico Ong (33 Wilson St., Greenhills, San Juan; tel. 7267290) celebrates plus-size couture with color-rare cotton jersey separates with her iconic indigenous woven accent shawls, boleros and neckpieces.

"It starts with a positive attitude," Ong says. "Being happy inside your skin, that confidence that you love your figure and yet want to wear the latest styles and accessories. It definitely empowers women who have been forgotten in the fashion market. These pieces say I belong."

Start with vibrant happy colors that will make your figure sing ... The face-flattering accents for your top as shown in the arresting boleros, sculpture scarves and ... shawls. Wear flowing skirts and pants in comfortable ...

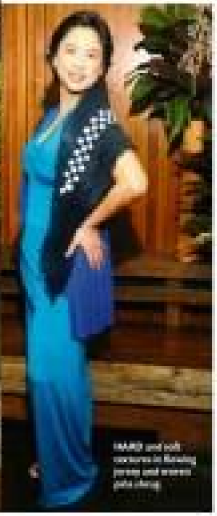
Be bold to flaunt your assets via makeup or accent jewelry. With wonderful people around, you will surely feel blessed.



STRUCTURED top with embroidery in piña ... matched with pajama pants. Bag and sandals also by Dita Sandico Ong

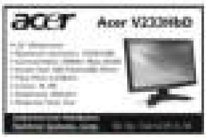


FRAME your face with ruffle neckpiece over black bustier and jersey skirt, with blue shawl



HARD and soft textures in flowing jersey and woven piña ...


Great finds & great treats at CHAIN MARTS'
Good Fortune Sale
Sale Period:
August 28 to September 13, 2009
Cash & Carry
Aunt Jemima
P209.50
Lender's
P137.50
Brown & Haley
P260.50
Yame
French's
P80.50
P57.75
P45.25
Plumrose
Birds Eye
P226.50
P88.95
P102.50
P113.50



LifeStyle Fashion & Beauty





Scarlett Johansson is new face of Spanish fashion brand



SCARLETT Johansson for Mango



JOHANSSON succeeds Penelope Cruz as the Spanish fashion brand's new image model.



Casual with a dash of trendy for this arts maven

The Working Class



It allows her to effortlessly move from a business meeting to an art event





On My Shopping List



Up to 70-percent off at The Optical Shop

[illegible] Visit its outlet at the lower ground level, Main Bldg. [illegible]



Sporty eyewears from George Optical

[illegible]





Shine with sunglasses from Seen

[illegible]

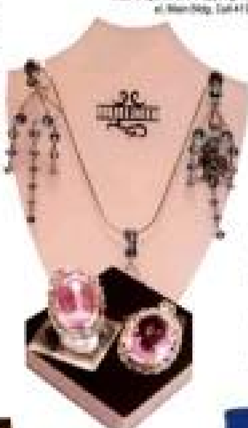
Hip, trendy look at Executive Optical

[illegible]



Glam charms at Silverworks

[illegible]



Chic silver pieces at Ibay's

[illegible]





Jewelry finds at Gold Mine

[illegible]



Beauty matters at Enhance Cosmetic Surgery & Skin Care Center

[illegible]



Avon cares

[illegible]



Godiva beauty stopover

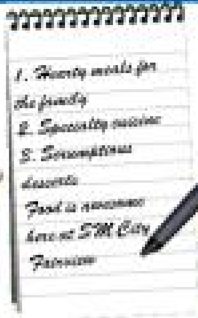
[illegible]

FAIRVIEW

some
day
ile
to 30, 2009

On My Foodie List







For the love of Green Mango

[illegible]



Desserts to crave for at Crepes & Cream

[illegible]



Vietnamese fare at Pho Hoa

[illegible]





Sizzling hot dishes at Sizzlin' Pepper Steak

[illegible]



Relish authentic Thai cuisine at My Thai

[illegible]



Casual with a dash of trendy for this arts maven

From page F1



A. GALANG black long-sleeve dress

ART PIECE

...pected color in her shoes or bag, conveys confidence and creativity.

Gobpeco-Lopa lived for a year in London when her husband Randy took his fellowship in medicine. With her love of history, she attended a course on the History of Decorative Arts at the Victoria and Albert Museum, where her interest in art took wing.

With a group of friends, she now helps run the pre-loved clothing line Vintage Juice. She also sits on the board of trustees of the Museum Foundation of the Philippines, raising funds and awareness for the National Museum and its network.

This year, she co-organized the 2nd Asean Textile Symposium, an international conference focused on preserving the indigenous textile traditions of Southeast Asia. One of her pet projects is Art in the Park. This annual event is an affordable art fair of paintings, prints, photos and sculptures at the Jaime Velasquez Park in Salcedo Village.

She attends an exhibit opening at least once a week and enjoys Manila's visual arts scene.

Late in the evenings, she writes her blog on the Manila art scene, dedicated to her vocation to make art more visible (www.manilaartblogger.wordpress.com). It serves as a record of sorts for the goings-on in the art community.

Gobpeco-Lopa used to attend a Creative Writing Class with UP professor and writer Jing Hidalgo, and has written articles on art exhibits and artists like Rilgyo Romero.

She maintains quite a busy yet flexible work schedule that allows her time to exercise. Her mother started her. She runs twice a week and works out with a personal trainer. But her weekends are always devoted to her family.

This is how she enjoys the balance in her life—business mixed with inspiring art and a loving family.

PHOTOGRAPHY [illegible]
[illegible]



PINK short-sleeve [illegible] from [illegible]; black and white [illegible] from Vinnova with matching white [illegible] shorts. Pink bag.

THE LONG AND SHORT OF IT



AT BEIJING'S 798 Art District



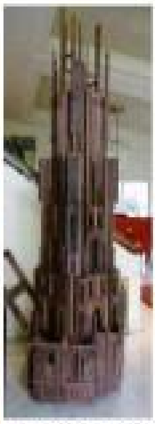
BLACK [illegible]

BARE ESSENTIALS



BLACK [illegible] with white [illegible] Vinnova

SERIOUSLY SHORT



ONE of Lopa's favorite pieces, a wooden sculpture done in 2004 by social realist Jose Tence Ruiz called "Karosan Katedral Kandual Dos." From his series of gothic cathedrals in bas-tion

Celebs attend pants sale

DOCKERS San Francisco branches recently held the "Pantalone's return" 3-day sale. Many items were offered at 50 percent off their regular price.

Aside from performances, free food and coffee were served.

Dockers-loving celebrities were spotted at the event. Variety artist-entrepreneur and TV host Chris Tiu and "Survivor" host Paolo Bediones were seen shopping at Dockers Trinoma last Aug. 14. TV reporter Ivan Mayrina and Jiggy Manicad also gave in to the lure of Dockers...



BASKETBALL superstar Chris Tiu shops at Dockers.

Pay what you can at Aug. 30 Peta show

FOR THE OPENING of its flagship project on children's rights, Peta is opening a pay-what-you-can offer for the first 100 reservations for both the 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. shows on Aug. 30 of "Ismail at Isabel."

"Ismail at Isabel" is original and realistic story that will forever change our view of children of the streets. The narrative focuses on two children, Ismail and Isabel, a Christian and a Muslim who once lived in a village where Muslims and Christians lived harmoniously.

Performances are slated Aug. 29-Oct. 4 at the Peta Theater Center [illegible].

To avail of the promo, send PETA, your name, contact number, and pledge/donation on or before Aug. 28 through e-mail [illegible].

Irish/Filipino twinbill play at UPLB

The UPLB Samahan sa Sining, the laboratory arm of the Department of Humanities, is staging John Millington Synge's "Riders to the Sea/Sa Sinapupunan ng Laot," a two-part adaptation by Prof. [illegible], under the direction of Prof. [illegible].

The show runs Sept. 16-17, at 7 p.m.; Sept. 18, 3 and 7 p.m.; and Sept. 19-20, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. For ticket reservations: [illegible]

'Jack and the Beanstalk' ongoing

Repertory Philippines brings "Jack and the Beanstalk" to Onstage Theater, L/2, Greenbelt 1, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City, until Dec. 13. For ticket inquiries, tel. [illegible]

What's Up

Brazilian footwear promo

Ipanema's "Classic 5" and Grendha's "All 4 One" promos are ongoing in all SM department stores until Sept. 15. Buy 5 pairs of Ipanema flip-flops or 4 pairs of Grendha shoes and sandals and get the next pair free.

The first purchase of Ipanema or Grendha in selected SM Department Stores entitles one to a stamp card and sticker for each brand. Complete the number of stickers required, 4 for Grendha and 5 for Ipanema, and get free flip-flops or sandals. Redemption is until Nov. 15 at the last SM Department Store branch where you made your purchase.

Sun promo

With Sun Cellular's IDD 10 Sentavo, call the Americas ... [illegible]

For inquiries, Sun Cellular Hotline [illegible], www.suncellular.com.ph.

LIFESTYLE Fashion&Beauty







POTPOURRI



ANGELS of Florence

600-year-old pharmacy now trendy marketer of perfumes

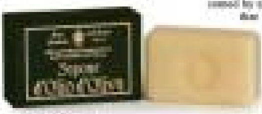
AMONG FLORENCE'S churches, Santa Maria Novella is often overlooked. It lacks the grandeur of the Duomo and the poignancy of Santa Croce, where Michelangelo and Galileo are entombed. And while its Renaissance frescoes may rival those of San Marco, its location in a seedy neighborhood near the city's main train station keeps it off the radar of many visitors to the City of Lilies.



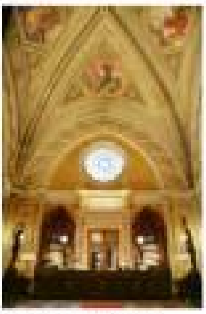
ACQUA di Colonia Melograno



TAVOLETTA Cera Lavanda



SAPONE all'Olio d'Oliva

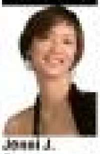


SANTA Maria Novella's Sala Vendita

Madonna, Sienna, Kate are into brouges



Mabuhay!



Jessi J. Epperson

Classic versions

Brouges are perfect with summer dresses, baggy jeans and simple tee











JUST LIKE A PRO

Professional photographer Alex Van Hagen trades his camera for the Nokia 6700 classic for one photo-shoot discovering that not everything has to come in large packages.





The Nokia 6700 classic features a 5 megapixel camera, high speed internet access, and quick entry to Ovi Share - the best things do come in small packages.



Sink your teeth into this: The Nokia 6700 Classic shoots crystal clear photos that makes photos look good enough to eat.



Show your friends what you're enjoying. With the Nokia 6700 classic, you can post your food finds on Ovi Share for your friends and family to see



The Nokia 6700 classic's 5 megapixel camera brings any photo into the



FINESSE: Celso Lim, Metro Everyday Living's resident consultant, checks out silk, satin and chiffon choices in Metro's fabric section.

Fashion designers' best-kept secret

THE EVERYDAY LIVING SECTION OF Metro Department Store is a haven of fabrics like silk, satin and chiffon. Most local designers, even high-fashion couturiers, flock to this place because of its wide selection of fabrics that are hard to find in other department stores.

The fabric section has been featured every week on the reality fashion TV show "Project Runway Philippines."

All materials at Metro are priced competitively, if not even lower, especially during special sales and promo events.

Beyond using fabrics for dressmaking, with a stretch of the imagination, one can even utilize special types of fabrics to decorate any room in the house—for a fraction of the price of buying actual decor items like tablecloths, curtains or pillowcases.

Here are tips on using fabric patterns in decorating.

• A room can be designed around fabric prints or patterns of your choice. You can use it in several pillows on a sofa or dining chairs, as artwork by framing a remnant, or as tablecloth for a dining table. Whether it's toile, floral, striped or solid, the fabric should harmonize with the style and overall theme and color of the room.

• Unless the prints are tabulated or matched, avoid using more than three patterns in a room. Anything beyond three has a jarring and confusing effect. Vary the style and size of the patterns. For instance, instead of choosing three floral prints, try floral, plaid and stripe. You can even try adding checkered or a geometric pattern.

Use the scale of small, medium and large sizing for each pattern (e.g., small floral, medium plaid, large stripe); then pick a common color among the patterns. If blue is the foundation color of the fabric, all of the patterns should have the color blue present somewhere in the pattern.

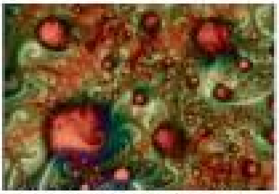
• Varying fabrics between pattern size, pattern style and color scheme will achieve a harmonious effect. A practical rule is to choose a base fabric and then build on that foundation. The result will simply be marvelous.

Metro is at Market! Market! at The Fort, Ayala Center in Cebu, Mandaue, Cebu, Legaspi and Lucena.





BEYOND dressmaking, fabrics sold at Metro Everyday Living can also be utilized for decorative uses such as tablecloths, at a much lower price.



"AT PLAY in the Fields of the Lord," by Rodolfo Caraos

15 Pinoy artists exhibit in HK

FIFTEEN FILIPINO ARTISTS living and working in Hong Kong mount the exhibit, "Kulay, Buhay, Sakwali (Color, Culture, Harmony)," at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre until Aug. 29.

The exhibitors (e-mail philartexhibit@yahoo.com; visit http://exhibits...) feature visual artists and photographers such as ... Cabrido, ... Caraos, ... Romero, ... de Guzman, Charles Ridgeway, ... Alfredo, ... Mendoza, ... Manaod, ... Pachero, Boyet Nicola, ... Rubio, ... Segismundo and Edgar Tupaz.

Harana is an art group composed of Hong Kong-based Filipino artists and healthcare professionals.

Their exhibitions present the evolution of each of the artist's growth.

The Philippine Arts and Cultural Society (PACS) of Hong Kong aims to educate, inform and enrich the knowledge of people living in or visiting Hong Kong and China, on the traditions, arts and culture of the Philippines.

It carries out activities related to dance, music, theater, visual arts, literature and culinary arts.

PACS and Harana organize the annual Philippine Arts Festival in Hong Kong.

Storage systems from SM Homeworld







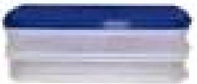
Imagine a home so organized and clutter free that you can easily find the linen you've stored for Christmas, your collection of your favorite jazz music, the right shade of lipstick for your new dress, photographs of last year's holiday, and the pasta sauce you cooked in advance for tonight's dinner.

That's not such a difficult dream to achieve with the right storage systems from SM Homeworld. Made of clear plastic, these are versatile and long lasting, with a sense of transparency that make finding and labeling stuff a breeze.

Whether it's for storing linen, clothes, and beauty items, or organizing your CDs, DVDs, and tools; or storing food select a storage system that is flexible and can adapt easily to your changing needs. It's also nice to get stackable pieces for easy organization and space saving.

Colorful plastic containers with drawers and dividers are best for storing non food items, while air tight and leak proof clear containers are ideal for storing food. Check these out at the Homeworld Department of all SM stores.

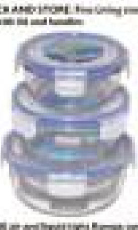


















Rainy Days are Best Spent Indoors... SHOPPING!

The PC shopping guide

Power user

Best for students

Branded versus unbranded PCs

Business user

Casual Multimedia user

The advantage of buying a branded PC is you can use it already once you take it out of the box. Many branded PCs and notebooks often come with an operating system and additional software

Shopping tips that make sense

SHOPPING CAN BE A HASSLE WHEN YOU'RE NOT prepared for it.

[illegible]

First HTC Concept Store opens in SM



[illegible]

Spend for your car, too

[illegible]

1) Lubrication



[illegible]

2) Makeover-loaders and tires



[illegible]

3) Wipers



[illegible]

The Appliance that you can trust

All-Weather Fashion at Tutuban Mall

School Dress-Up

A refrigerator that saves energy from Panasonic

ClubMazda Philippines holds EB at Ortigas Home Depot







Toon
fest
Dream in ultimate toon fashion.
SM
DEPARTMENT STORE
We've got it all for you!

LIVING Stars

PAULEEN LUNA

BOOKS







VALENTINO, Chanel, Louis Vuitton and Miu Miu bags



FEMININE, elegant and romantic dresses

OFFICIALLY OFFICIAL



'Fashionista' host loves being a gal

JOGAS DE LEON, DAUGHTER of comedian and TV host Joey de Leon, has found her niche in the fashion world.



JOGAS de Leon sports a Cartier watch, a graduation gift from daddy Joey

Bags

Dresses

Makeup

Eyewear

DVDs

OUT OF THE CLOSET

Books

Shoes

Timepiece

Scents







SHE collects books about Audrey Hepburn, Jackie Kennedy and Natalie Wood



FASHION plays an important part in these classic films, she notes









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UP

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GALLERIA

1 G.I. JOE
2 AND I LOVE YOU SO
3 SHORTS
4 DISTRICT 9
5 UP
6 UP (Digital 3D)
7 BANDSLAM
8 Indieline: DING SANA KITA
9 TAROT
10 THE TIME'S TRAVELER'S WIFE

ERMITA

1 G.I. JOE / THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE
2 SHORTS
3 DISTRICT 9
4 UP
5 AND I LOVE YOU SO
6 TAROT
7 BANDSLAM

METRO EAST

1 SHORTS
2 BANDSLAM
3 TAROT
4 DISTRICT 9
5 G.I. JOE
6 UP
7 AND I LOVE YOU SO
8 THE TIME'S TRAVELER'S WIFE

NOVALICHES

1 DISTRICT 9
2 TAROT
3 AND I LOVE YOU SO
4 SHORTS

PIONEER

1 SHORTS
2 DISTRICT 9
3 AND I LOVE YOU SO
4 BANDSLAM

NOW
SHOWING
at Robinsons Movieworld
Cinemas



MOVIEWORLD

STA. ROSA

1 DISTRICT 9
2 THE HANGOVER
3 TAROT
4 AND I LOVE YOU SO

LIPA

1 AND I LOVE YOU SO
2 TAROT
3 DISTRICT 9
4 G.I. JOE

DASMARIÑAS

1 AND I LOVE YOU SO
2 G.I. JOE
3 TAROT
4 DISTRICT 9

IMUS

1 AND I LOVE YOU SO
2 SHORTS
3 DISTRICT 9
4 TAROT

STARMILLS

1 THE HANGOVER
2 AND I LOVE YOU SO
3 G.I. JOE
4 TAROT
5 UP
6 DISTRICT 9

ANGELES

1 DISTRICT 9
2 TAROT
3 AND I LOVE YOU SO
4 THE HANGOVER

TACLOBAN

1 UP / G.I. JOE
2 TAROT
3 AND I LOVE YOU SO

BACOLOD

1 DISTRICT 9
2 AND I LOVE YOU SO
3 UP
4 G.I. JOE
5 TAROT
6 ECHELON CONSPIRACY

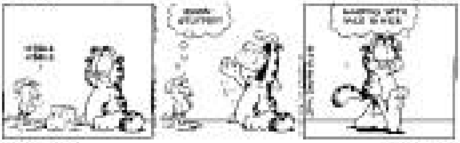
ILOILO

1 DISTRICT 9
2 AND I LOVE YOU SO
3 TAROT
4 G.I. JOE
5 NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH
6 UP

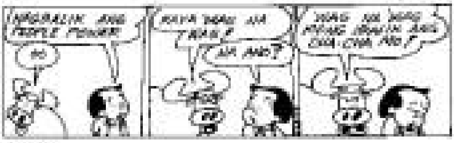
MOVIEWORLD
TRAVEL TREAT



GARFIELD



A. LIPIN — BY JESS ABRERA



PUGAD BABOY



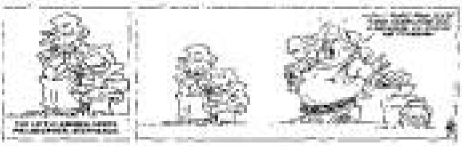
DICK TRACY



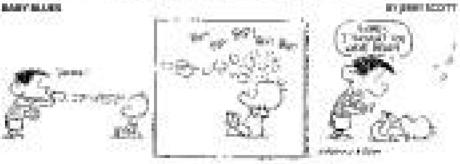


JAMES BOND





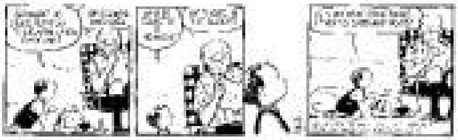
BABY BLUES — BY JERRY SCOTT



TULDOK

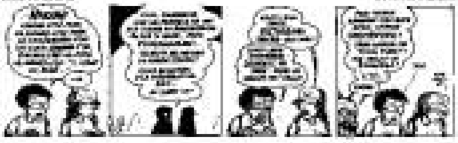


BEN — BY DANIEL SHELTON



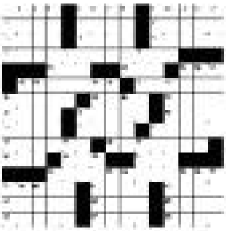


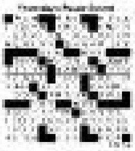
KIKO MACHINE — BY MANIX ABRERA



HOROSCOPE

CROSSWORD PUZZLE





CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

9	2						1	
			6		5			
	7				8	3		
	5	8				9		
7								8
		2				6	3	
		4	1				8	
			5		6			
	3						2	4

Difficulty Level ★★★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle

4	1	3	8	9	2	5	6	7
5	7	2	6	4	1	3	9	8
8	9	6	7	5	3	1	2	4
3	4	9	1	8	5	2	7	6
2	8	1	4	7	6	9	3	5
6	5	7	3	2	9	4	8	1
1	3	8	2	6	4	7	5	9
7	2	5	9	1	8	6	4	3
9	6	4	5	3	7	8	1	2



TWO OF A DIFFERENT KIND. German Moreno, left, hosts the program at his Bday girl Marian Rivera's laid-back party at the Imperial Palace Hotel. At right, Dingdong Dantes dances with Iza Calzado during his formal birthday bash.

Kapuso stars celebrate love

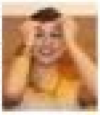
By Rupert San Diego Jr.
Photos by Jon Ruben Paculdan

GMA 7 TALENTS MARIAN RIVERA AND Dingdong Dantes recently celebrated their birthdays in two very different ways.

Marian, who turned 25 last Aug. 12, was treated to a laid-back shindig by Regal matriarch and fellow celebrator Lily Monteverde at the producer's Imperial Palace hotel in Quezon City on Aug. 20.

Leading the revelers were Marian's "Darna" leading man Dennis Trillo and director [illegible], along with "Darna" cast mates Iwa Moto, Mark Anthony Fernandez, Alfred Vargas and [illegible].

German Moreno hosted the program, which featured speeches by co-workers, including GMA 7 exec Wilma Galvante, who described the celebrator as "the prettiest and happiest Darna."



"ROSALINDA" star Carla Abellana

Also in attendance were "Rosalinda" stars Carla Abellana and Geoff Eigenmann.



Marian's Ding in "Darna," Robert "Bekoy" Villar, charmed the crowd with a song number, but the night's certified show-stopper was Dingdong Dantes, who arrived in the middle of director Joyce Bernal's performance, according to [illegible], one of the guests.

Dingdong sang for Marian the [illegible] "Narda."

He had just finished one of those rehearsals for his birthday TV special, according to Marian's manager [illegible].

Dingdong's own 29th birthday bash was a strictly formal affair held at the GMA Studios on Aug. 21. His actual birthday is Aug. 2. "Marking my birthday on Sen. Ninoy Aquino's day makes it more special," he told Living Stars. "It was an honor."

Guests included Richard Gomez, Joey de Leon, Ogie Alcasid, Iza Calzado, Sunshine Dizon, Paolo Contis, Gabby Eigenmann, [illegible] Prieto-Valdes, his "Stairway to Heaven" partner Rhian Ramos and Marian, of course.

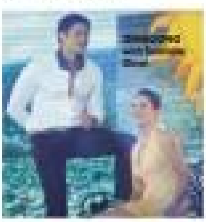
The party was taped at GMA 7's new Studio 7 and will be aired as a TV special dubbed "Dantes' Ball" on Monday, Aug. 30.



MARIAN with fellow celebrator Mother Lily



"DARNA" co-stars Mark Anthony Fernandez and Iwa Moto



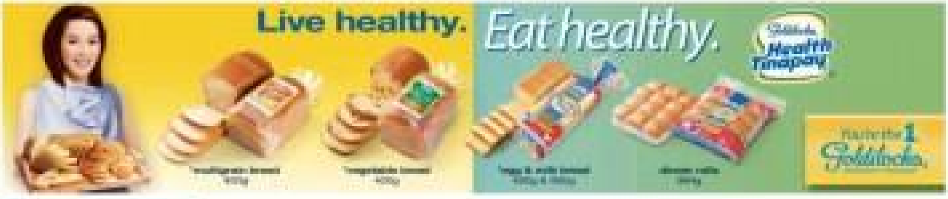
DINGDONG with [illegible]

ENTERTAINMENT

Billboard Woman of the Year

NEW YORK—THE YEAR'S NOT EVEN over, but Billboard already knows who its Woman of the Year is—Beyoncé. ... AP

CHEER FACTOR

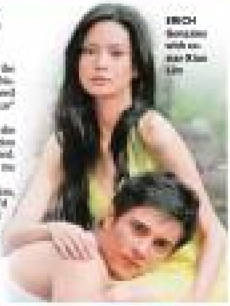


Anthology of film articles launch

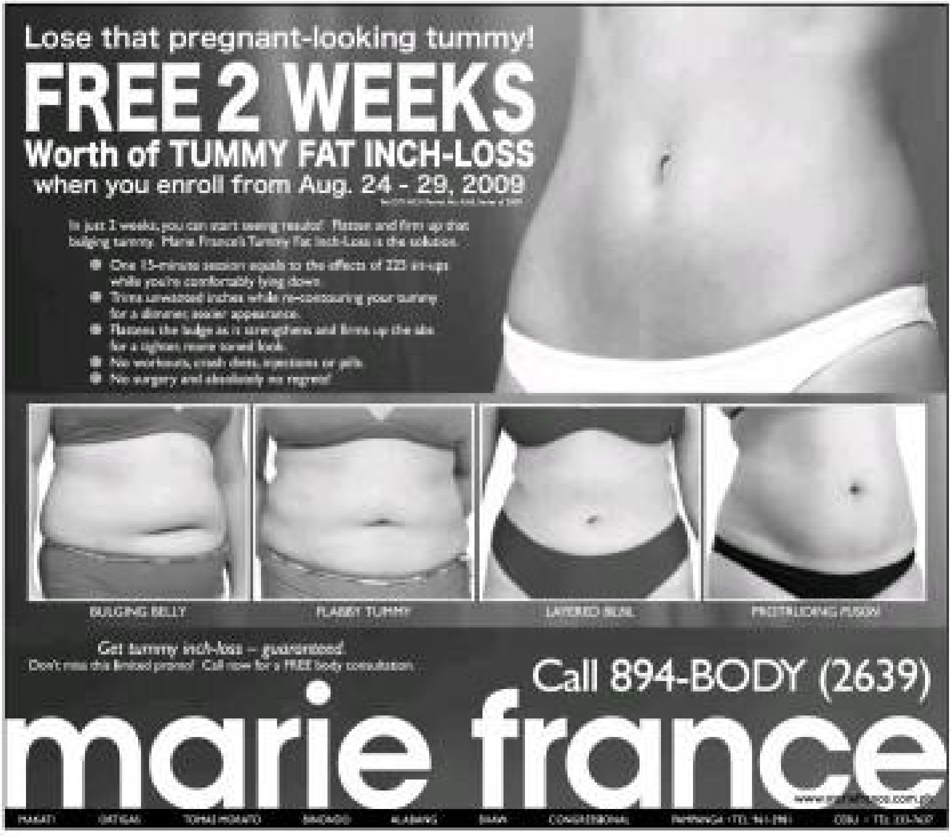
DID YOU KNOW..

Erich wants to impress Dina B

ERICH GONZALES, star of the current TV remake of "Katorse," is dead set on impressing Dina Bonnevie, who played the lead in the original 1984 movie.







Will James Cameron. . .

From page B

Na'vi language



Beatles r



Griffith returns to rehab for 'routine' visit

Did You Know...



...ule 40 years after split

'Belly of the Beast'

Family Tree

GMA 7 fun run has a serious side

Hot shape-shifter back with more

By Ronnie M. Roxas



TAKE FIVE



Will James Cameron be 'king of the world' again?



ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD
Ruben V. Nepales

Visually stunning world

100 percent done



Ecology, human greed

Performance, not animation

Technological breakthroughs

JabbaWockeeZ at Ayala Malls Sept. 4-6

SHOW TIME

'Power Bops' at Metro Bar

Sitti in Cavite





Tonight

Tomorrow



Sept. 4

Sept. 6

Sept. 18

Sept. 19